REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification to refer to the present application as a continuation of International Application PCT/EP02/03182, filed March 21, 2002, which claims the priority of German application No. 101 14 748.1, filed March 22, 2001, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Josefino P. de Leon

Req. No. 33,166

SHLESINGER, ARKWRIGHT & GARVEY LLP 3000 South Eads Street Arlington, Virginia 22202 (703) 684-5600 lm